

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPORTATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN LILA TAYLOR**, on February 15, 1999 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 402 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Lila Taylor, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Mike Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Eve Franklin (D)  
Sen. Ken Mesaros (R)  
Rep. Joe Quilici (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Ray Peck (D)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Lynn Daily, Committee Secretary  
Greg DeWitt, Legislative Branch  
Amy Sassano, OBPP

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Executive Action: Department of Transportation

REP. QUILICI has REP. PECK's proxy.

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** states that she believes we have a great deal of responsibility in this budget. Her primary focus is to get roads built and repaired.

**SEN. TAYLOR** states that in 1991 the collection of fuel tax was put into their department and wants to look at maybe removing that from them and putting some of that back into Department of Revenue.

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**Bill Salisbury** talks about electronic commerce. They have no desire to duplicate function. Electronic Commerce is a national push.

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks if this electronic commerce ties into MOTRS and electronic fuel tax. **Mr. Salisbury** says yes. This would feed the fuel tracking system. They have eight people that do electronic filing every month. **SEN. TAYLOR** then asks how much mail they get each month. **Mr. Salisbury** says about 120 of coupon based payments and they also get transmittals from other states in the form of IFTA payments. They get 87,000 checks per year and many are just \$3.00 permits. They would never be able to eliminate their cashier because they have people that come in from the streets to pay bills. **SEN. TAYLOR** asks how many FTEs there are for fuel tax collection. **Mr. Salisbury** says there are 1.375 FTE.

**SEN. TAYLOR** states we need to look at what is best for the agencies and the taxpayers. He was informed by the director of the DOR that they could do this project and it may cost less than the DOT is doing it for now.

**Neil Peterson, Administrator of the Customer Service Center, Department of Revenue**, speaks for electronic commerce. He states their ultimate goal is to drive costs down. They purchased a license for GenTran for EDI (electronic data interchange) transformation. They are trying to develop a state wide license for revenue transfers. Their ultimate goal is not to have Sterling Silver sell to each agency and have them also pay for maintenance on one piece of equipment that will be located in the DOA.

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks when they think we could get a signed contract between DOT and DOR. **Mr. Peterson** states they would sign any day. **Mr. Salisbury** states they can sign anytime they want.

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks where we are with the vendor. **Mr. Salisbury** says this company is anxious to deal with government because they have mostly dealt with the private sector. He believes they'll have it done by June 30.

**REP. QUILICI** asks when the contract will be signed. **Mr. Peterson** says they have signed a contract for GenTran and they are going to talk to the vendor today. **REP. QUILICI** asks how the customers feel about the contract and the amount of money they are spending. **Mr. Salisbury** says they only have three fuel vendors who can't handle the system. Some of the other software that

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they will need will cost about \$400. They are very positive because being late one day is a 10% penalty. This can be a very large fine for some, so they don't like to depend on the mail.

**{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 30.8}**

**REP. QUILICI** asks if this system will enhance capabilities to make sure the proper amount goes to tax and fuel tax evasion.

**Mr. Salisbury** says yes, it tracks late and missing loads. **REP. QUILICI** states that it bothers him that the negotiation are still going on.

**SEN. TAYLOR** says it may be working but there is one case where it did not. He knows of a case where a person was never late once in eight years and because the mail was late he was fined \$30,000. He is in favor of electronic commerce and not in favor of duplicating and turf wars. He believes its going to have to get done or there are going to be some mad customers. **REP. QUILICI** agrees in a lot of ways.

#### EXECUTIVE ACTION ON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

##### EXECUTIVE ACTION ON DOT - GENERAL OPERATIONS PROGRAM

**Motion/Vote:** **REP. QUILICI** moved **BASE (PAGE A-76)**. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. MESAROS** moved **STATEWIDE PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS (PAGE A-76)**. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** **SEN. FRANKLIN** moved **DP 1 - TRAVEL ADJUSTMENT (PAGE A-76)**.

##### **Discussion:**

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks how much is in the base. **Greg DeWitt** says \$178,000.

**Mr. Salisbury** says that this for them to go out and work with field offices and is related to the accounting service bureau.

**Vote:** Motion **failed 3-3 with Franklin, Peck, and Quilici voting aye.**

Committee takes no action on DP 2 - Highway Maps (Page A-76) but has a discussion

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**REP. QUILICI** asks how these maps are used. **Mr. Salisbury** says these are the highway maps that are found all over such as the ones in convenience stores.

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks why we are taking highway money to build the maps. **Mr. Salisbury** says it is allowed in the constitution. **CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** then states that she suspects that before travel Montana got their 4.0% bed tax they didn't have the money to do maps.

**SEN. MESAROS** wants to see more money going to roads and thinks Travel Montana could help fund this.

**Motion/Vote:** **REP. QUILICI** moved **DP 3 - HUMAN RESOURCES LEGAL SERVICES (PAGE A-76)**. Motion carried unanimously.

**DP 5 - Safety and Training was withdrawn by the DOT**

**Motion:** **SEN. FRANKLIN** moved **DP 6 - AASHTO TRAINING (PAGE A-77)**.

**Discussion:**

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks what's in the base and how many people are being trained. **Jean Bond** says they have normally sent two people to the two week training and seven to the one week training. It's a new proposal and previously when someone went to training it came out of each program budget.

**SEN. MESAROS** asks if this is mandated. **Mrs. Bond** says it is not. **Jim Curry** says that the two week course is a management course and they deal with management issues that are related to DOT issues across the country. The one week course is for entry level management. He thinks management development is very important to their program.

**SEN. FRANKLIN** is in support of this decision package because it's hard to be a good manager.

**SEN. MESAROS** is opposed to this decision package because it's not mandated and people have found money in their budget before.

**REP. QUILICI** states with the amount of money coming in they can't put is on the roads if they don't have the expertise.

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks how the candidates are chosen. **Mr. Curry** says the candidates that go to the course have to achieve a certain level with the Department with potential to be promoted. They had two candidates who eligible last time and they weren't sent because they were going to retire soon.

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**Substitute Motion/Vote:** SEN. TAYLOR made a substitute motion TO REDUCE BY 50% AS A ONE TIME ONLY. Substitute motion carried 5-1 with Mesaros voting no.

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. TAYLOR moved DP 8 - DBE TRAVEL/TRAINING (PAGE A-77). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** SEN. TAYLOR moved DP 12 - DIGITAL MEDIA SERVICES (PAGE A-77) at \$25,000 PER YEAR.

**Discussion:**

Mike Randall says there are two key elements. One is for the road view data collection van that is going off of warranty. The \$25,000 is for maintenance of the equipment in the van, software upgrades, and hardware component problems.

***{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 28.6}***

The second is \$20,000 is for the copy equipment from Xerox. Usage fees are going up and usage is increasing by 12% per year.

SEN. TAYLOR asks what is in the base. Mr. Randall says in FY98 they had \$92,000 that was expended in repair and maintenance.

**Vote:** Motion carried 5-1 with Quilici voting no.

**Motion:** SEN. TAYLOR moved TO APPROVE DP 13 - LOCKHEED CONTRACT LESS \$20,000 PER YEAR.

**Discussion:**

SEN. TAYLOR asks if this ties into DOR. Mr. Salisbury says a small amount in cashing of about \$45,000. SEN. TAYLOR asks what the rest of the money is used for. Mr. Salisbury states that it is composed of several things including tax systems and the IRP (International Registration Plan) system.

REP. QUILICI states that they still have \$40,000 that they're going to have to eat somewhere and it may come out of the roads.

SEN. TAYLOR states that he feels there is some money there that can be used to transfer.

**Vote:** Motion failed 3-3 with Mesaros, Taylor, and Taylor voting aye.

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. FRANKLIN moved DP 13 AT THE AGENCY'S REQUESTED LEVEL. Motion failed 3-3 with Franklin, Peck, and Quilici voting aye.

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**Motion/Vote:** REP. QUILICI moved RECONSIDER THE ACTION OF SEN. TAYLOR'S MOTION. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** REP. QUILICI moved SEN. TAYLOR'S PREVIOUS MOTION TO APPROVE DP 13 LESS \$20,000 PER YEAR. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** SEN. MESAROS moved TO FUND DP 14 - NETWORKING CONTRACTED SERVICES (PAGE A-77) AT \$50,000 PER YEAR.

**Discussion:**

CHAIRMAN TAYLOR asks if this is to put computers in remote areas. Mr. Randall says not directly, it is related to technology. This is for contracted services to assist in remote areas.

SEN. FRANKLIN asks what the \$100,000 is for. Mr. Randall says that is based off of an average of \$40 to \$80 per hour depending on the technical nature of the problem. They looked at about \$50 as an average amount. SEN. FRANKLIN asks if there is any number of projects. Mr. Randall says that when they add 100 other network houses to their system they need to be addressed.

SEN. MESAROS asks what is the amount of down time per year. Mr. Randall says these are their inspectors at construction sites. They are trying to keep operations as smooth as possible.

CHAIRMAN TAYLOR asks what is in the base. Mr. Randall says \$288,000 for contracted services.

SEN. FRANKLIN asked if they have used this much in the past. Mr. Randall says that is exactly what they used.

SEN. TAYLOR states that the newer systems use less maintenance. Mr. Randall says that the newer systems have a three year warranty.

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

DP 17 - PUBLIC INFORMATION (PAGE A-77) WAS WITHDRAWN BY THE DOT.

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. TAYLOR moved APPROVE DP 18 - EQUIPMENT RENTAL (PAGE A-77). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. MESAROS moved APPROVE DP 19 - ROAD REPORTING (PAGE A-78). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** SEN. FRANKLIN moved DP 20 - DBE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (PAGE A-78).

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**Discussion:**

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks how this was funded before. **Amy Sassano** says that this was a modified FTE which is an existing person but there is no money in the base. **Marvin Dye** says that because they couldn't find a contractor to do this they hired an FTE and he is jumping through hoops.

**REP. QUILICI** states that they didn't want to show an increase in FTEs and here it is just legitimizing a person.

**SEN. FRANKLIN** asks if the person goes away will the FTE dissipate. **Mr. Dye** says they is correct. They have had some difficulty with the Federal Government so they don't know how long it will last.

***{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 30.5}***

**REP. QUILICI** states that he is sure the fiscal department and OBPP would track this position. He sees a person who has a job and they don't know if they will have a job the next biennium.

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks how many companies take advantage of this program. **Mrs. Bond** says 107. They provide technical assistance and training to them so they can competitively bid on a federal level.

**SEN. TAYLOR** states that this is almost half of the General Fund and almost a \$1 Billion budget.

**SEN. MESAROS** sees this as a position funded by Federal funds that may or may not be there in the future.

**Vote:** Motion **carried 5-1 with Chairman Taylor voting no.**

**Motion/Vote:** **REP. QUILICI** moved **DP 22 - OVERTIME AND DIFFERENTIAL PAY (PAGE A-78)**. Motion **carried unanimously.**

**Motion:** **SEN. TAYLOR** moved **DP 27 - COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE (PAGE A-78) BE REDUCED BY \$250,000 PER YEAR.**

**Discussion:**

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks what is in the base. **Mr. Randall** says \$598,278 which includes the PC replacement program. **SEN. TAYLOR** then asks what they are paying for the 350 computers they will be replacing. **Mr. Randall** says around \$2,000. For their request they are looking at \$1750 per machine. **John Blacker** says that about 65% of the sites have computers.

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**SEN. TAYLOR** is figuring we give \$2,000 per computer and there's \$930,000 in the total base for this. **Greg DeWitt** states that the routing PC replacement is in the base and they're request is for additional equipment for their IT system.

**NEW PROPOSALS**

**Vote:** Motion **carried unanimously.**

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. MESAROS** moved DP 4 - PROJECT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (PAGE A-79) AT AN 80/20 FEDERAL/STATE MATCH. Motion **carried unanimously.**

**Motion:** **SEN. FRANKLIN** moved DP 7 - FUEL TAX TRAINING AS A ONE TIME ONLY.

**Discussion:**

**SEN. MESAROS** asks if this is to hire an FTE to teach people to fill out the forms. **Mr. Salisbury** says yes and to teach them how to keep records. **SEN. MESAROS** then states that this have gone from a two page form to a 8-10 page form.

**SEN. FRANKLIN** asks if they think this person will go out into the field and assist. **Mr. Salisbury** says they will be totally out in the field. There are two forms that go out. One is the complete package. Many people were filling out a form for a 60% refund and they could have gotten 100%. There are far more people who have appreciated knowing that they can get MORE money back. This will hopefully be a one time thing. **SEN. TAYLOR** asks if they could do this all on the Internet. **Mr. Salisbury** states that it is simply more efficient to have a person out there because of motor vehicle drives who don't always have access to the Internet.

***{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 28.3}***

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks how they did this before. **Mr. Salisbury** says that they didn't do it. They have 8,000 refunders.

**SEN. MESAROS** believes this is a long way around to simplification.

**REP. PECK** asks how many licence fees are paying fuel tax. **Mr. Salisbury** says 135 fuel tax dealers, 900 IFTA, and 200 contractors.

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks if there is any other way the service can be provided. **Mr. Salisbury** they are exploring videotapes and



Internet access. They do have four auditors in remote locations. They want to reach them before they get and audit.

**SEN. TAYLOR** states that there are 327 FTEs requested for the agencies and they need to be careful.

**SEN. FRANKLIN** states that this seems to be more customer oriented and the department needs to be doing this kind of thing.

**Vote:** Motion failed 3-3 with Franklin, Peck, and Quilici voting aye.

**DP 9 - CUSTOMER SERVICE - NO ACTION**

**Motion:** REP. QUILICI moved DP 10 - TEA-21 (PAGE A-79).

**Discussion:**

**REP. QUILICI** states that they need to have this support staff to get the roads done.

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks what percent increase are these nine FTEs. **Monte Brown** says about 8.6%.

**SEN. TAYLOR** asks how many they have now. **Mr. Brown** says 10.5 FTE in financial management, 49.5 FTE in information technology, 50 in accounting, and 12 now. **Mr. Randall** says some of the FTE are in IT area and that's why it's a higher grade. They had 20 temporaries in the last three years and 11 lower staff.

**Substitute Motion/Vote:** **SEN. TAYLOR** made a substitute motion TO APPROVE 6 OF THE 9 FTE AND NOT APPROVE THREE FTE IN: ONE FROM GRADE 15, ONE FROM GRADE 14, AND ONE FROM ANY OTHER GRADE THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS. Substitute motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. TAYLOR** moved DP 11 - UTILITY AUDITOR POSITION (PAGE A-79). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** **SEN. TAYLOR** moved TO APPROVE DP 16 - INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES (PAGE A-79) AS A ONE TIME BIENNIAL APPROPRIATION OF \$125,000 PER YEAR AND DIRECT THE AGENCY TO MONITOR THE REPORT AND HAVE A REPORT TO THE NEXT COMMITTEE THAT SHOWS THE INCREASED FUEL TAX REVENUE AND THE COST SAVINGS FROM THIS PROGRAM DIRECTLY FOR THIS EXPENDITURE. RESTRICTED TO USE ONLY FOR THIS REQUEST FOR INTERNAL CONTRACTS.

**Discussion:**

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**Mr. Dye** states that occasionally there is a need to have an investigation.

**Mr. Curry** states that they are not necessarily talking about fuel tax evasion we are talking about other types of improprieties.

**Mr. Dye** when ever they have anything of this nature they need to go to the Department of Revenue.

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

*{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 30.6}*

**SEN. TAYLOR ASKS TO POSTPONE DP 24- ELECTRONIC COMMERCE (PAGE A-80) AND THE COMMITTEE AGREES.**

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. MESAROS** moved **DP 31 - COMPLIANCE REVIEW TRAINING (PAGE A-80)**. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** **REP. QUILICI** moved **DP 33 - MOTOR FUEL TAX AUDITORS (PAGE A-80)**.

**Discussion:**

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks how many they have now. **Mr. Curry** says they have eight field auditors and 12 FTEs. They do generate revenue. **CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** then asks when they go out and do audits how much lee way do they have on fines. **Mr. Curry** says they don't give them much. The commissioners have the authority.

**Vote:** Motion failed 3-3 with Franklin, Peck, and Quilici voting aye.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. MESAROS** moved **ACCEPT DP 33 AT ONE FTE AND CUT THE FUNDING ACCORDINGLY AND HAVE THEM REPORT BACK TO THE NEXT LEGISLATURE**. Motion carried unanimously.

**DP 33 - TEL 8 SYSTEM OPERATION WAS WITHDRAWN BY THE DOT.**

**Motion:** **REP. PECK** moved **DP 42 - ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT (PAGE A-80)**.

**Discussion:**

**Mr. Curry** states that they have an audit unit that has grown in size and they don't have any administrative support. This is an attempt to get support in the unit.

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**SEN. FRANKLIN** states if they are considering a contract temp. with no benefits they aren't making \$25,000. **Mr. Curry** says they would be going through a temp service and they get benefits through the service.

**Vote:** Motion carried 5-1 with Chairman Taylor voting no.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. TAYLOR** moved NEW PROPOSAL OF FUEL ADVISORY COMMISSION AT \$24,740 BIENNIAL APPROPRIATION AS A ONE TIME ONLY. Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON DOT - MOTOR CARRIER SERVICES DIVISION**

**Motion/Vote:** **REP. QUILICI** moved BASE (PAGE A-100). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. TAYLOR** moved STATEWIDE PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS (PAGE A-100). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. MESAROS** moved DP 1 - HIGH SPEED WIM REPAIR & MAINTENANCE (PAGE A-100). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** **REP. QUILICI** moved DP 2 - EQUIPMENT RENTAL (PAGE A-101). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** **SEN. TAYLOR** moved DP 4 - INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (PAGE A-101).

**Discussion:**

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks if this is computer glitch.

**Mr. Brown** says that this is not a computer glitch. It is a Federal Aid program that is so massive there are millions of transactions. They bill the Federal Government once a week and summarize. They lose the identity and can't tell which is Federal and which is state. MTPRRIME will not correct this problem.

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. MESAROS** moved that DP 5 - OVERTIME AND DIFFERENTIAL PAY (PAGE A-101) BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously.

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**DP 3 - MONTANA JOBS - TRACKING BACK-HAULS WAS WITHDRAWN BY THE  
DOT.**

**Motion/Vote: SEN. TAYLOR moved DP 37 - INTERNET PERMIT PROGRAM  
AS A ONE TIME ONLY APPROPRIATION WITH A REPORT BACK TO THE NEXT  
COMMITTEE TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE TRAINING EFFECTIVENESS.  
Motion carried 5-1 with Chairman Taylor voting no.**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON DOT - AERONAUTICS PROGRAM**

**Motion/Vote: SEN. MESAROS moved BASE (PAGE A-103). Motion  
carried unanimously.**

**Motion/Vote: SEN. FRANKLIN moved STATEWIDE PRESENT LAW  
ADJUSTMENTS (PAGE A-103). Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion: SEN. MESAROS moved DP 1 - REDUCTION OF SERVICES (PAGE A-  
103).**

**Discussion:**

**Jim Curry** says they were required by law to submit a balanced  
budget. They have a dilemma with CI-75. Even if the legislature  
passed fuel tax increase this wouldn't go to a vote until  
November so there would be some layoffs.

***{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 28.3}***

**Amy Sassano** states they the number associated with the fiscal  
note would restore this DP and other funding cuts.

**Vote: Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion: REP. QUILICI moved DP 2 - AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT GRANTS  
(PAGE A-103).**

**Discussion:**

**Mike Ferguson** states this is pass-through from a separate account  
than the main program.

**Greg DeWitt** says they have \$0.03 per gallon and \$0.01 per gallon  
is a grant fund that goes to local government.

**Vote: Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion/Vote: SEN. MESAROS moved DP 5 - AIRPORT TAX TRANSFER  
(PAGE A-103). Motion carried unanimously.**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON DOT - STATE MOTOR POOL**

**Motion:** SEN. TAYLOR moved ACCEPT DAILY AND SEPARATE MILEAGE RATES FOR THE FOUR CLASSES OF VEHICLES AS LFD HAS SUGGESTED ON PAGE A-95.

**Discussion:**

**Greg DeWitt** states that they are requesting a 60 day working capital.

**Mr. Blacker** says in the past the rate was \$2.50 a day or mileage, which ever was greater. The motor pool is statewide.

**SEN. MESAROS** supports the motion because it is easier to track.

**Greg DeWitt** states that the rates are maximum rates and they can be lowered.

**Mr. Blacker** says that hopefully this will make the agencies more careful about their requests.

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON DOT - EQUIPMENT PROGRAM**

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. TAYLOR moved A RATE BASED ON A 60-DAY WORKING CAPITAL BALANCE (PAGE A-97). Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON DOT - MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

**Motion/Vote:** REP. QUILICI moved BASE (Page A-89). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion/Vote:** SEN. FRANKLIN moved STATEWIDE PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS (PAGE A-89). Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** SEN. TAYLOR moved DP 1- REST AREAS AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE (PAGE A-89) AS AMENDED: TO REDUCE BY \$200,000 PER YEAR AND \$324,000 AS A ONE TIME ONLY BIENNIAL APPROPRIATION.

**Discussion:**

**Mr. Blacker** states that this is their effort to keep the rest areas open year round. They contract out all of the day-to-day care of the rest areas.

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**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks why they have four new ones when they don't have the budget to maintain and to keep the existing ones open year round. **Mr. Blacker** says they used to keep them open year round. In the Schwinden years they had to cut 10% and that was the decision. Some don't have the capacities to be open year-round.

**REP. QUILICI** says he has some problems with rest areas day-to-day care being contracted out. Some are not maintained the way they should be and asks if they have any ideas how to make this better. **Mr. Blacker** says that they have a rest area in Emigrant that the man stays eight hours a day. They are rewriting their contracts and are not always going to give them to the lowest bidder. They are also going to let the contractors buy their cleaning supplies from them.

**SEN. TAYLOR** states that this is an 83% increase. **Mr. Blacker** says that the \$324,000 increase is for work on existing rest areas such as toilet replacement and repairs to buildings and roofs to convert them to year-round use. They are trying to bring rest areas up to speed.

*{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 30.3}*

**Mr. Blacker** says it's going to cost around \$3,000 per month per rest area to keep them open year round.

**CHAIRMAN TAYLOR** asks if they are currently building more rest areas and where they will be. **Mr. Blacker** says they are building rest areas. Bozeman is going to bid shortly. They are also shutting down some rest areas like the Homestake rest area. They can no longer get potable water there. They are also thinking that there should be a rest area between every 90-120 miles.

**Vote:** Motion **carried unanimously.**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:50 A.M.

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REP. LILA TAYLOR, Chairman

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LYNN DAILY, Secretary

LT/LD

**EXHIBIT** (jgh37aad)